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## SUPPLEMENT

CONTAINING

## MEMORABILIA ET NOTABILIA.

William Frederic Foster, '94, and Spencer L. Adams, Joseph Anderson, Jr., Thomas H. Breeze, Frank J. Brown, Wendell G. Brownson, Herbert S. Bullard, Frank E. Donnelly, Herbert K. Smith, and Alfred C. Woolner, '95, have been elected editors of the *YALE LAW JOURNAL* for Volume IV.

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The Senior in the Law School in the past few years who was also a candidate for admission to the bar in this State has had to go through the ordeal of two examinations, one to obtain his diploma from the Law School and the other for admission to the bar. The former has been made to cover the more advanced work of the Senior year on subjects either not required at all for the bar examinations or, if so, not required in such detail and completeness as is called for in the Law School. Trusts, Roman law, insurance and public corporations are not subjects of examination for the bar, and no such extensive study of private corporations and United States Constitutional Law is required as is given to these studies in the Law School. In the meantime the more elementary branches studied in the Junior year, such as contracts, torts, evidence and real property, which are given the most weight in the examinations for admission to the bar, are left to become dimmed in the memory of the students until the time for examinations is at hand. This has placed the Senior at the Law School at a disadvantage in coming in contact with men who have made less pretentious preparations for the bar but with the practical and elementary parts of the law fresh in their minds. The result last year was that eight of the graduating class failed to pass their bar examinations while other men, coming from offices with perhaps less legal knowledge, were more successful.

The Faculty, in trying to obviate some of these difficulties, have adopted measures which it would seem ought to afford relief. In the first place real property and evidence have been taken from the list of Junior and put among the Senior year studies, thus tending to equalize the importance of the work in each year, and to keep the fundamental principles always before the mind of the

student. Secondly, a diploma will be granted to every man in the Senior class successfully passing his bar examinations and the school examinations in estates and public corporations. This last requirement is made necessary by the laws of the University which require an examination in order that a degree may be given; but, as the courses in both subjects are short ones, the study necessary to pass these examinations will not be an appreciable burden. In this way the necessity for two examinations is done away with except for such men as are studying for honors. They are still required to take the regular school examination on all subjects. The burden of these has, however, been materially lessened by scattering them through the year as much as possible, the examination on each subject taking place when the study of that particular subject is completed. This is another decided advantage and we hope the plan will be extended to all subjects. The work is not then all bunched at the end of the year, and at a time when the men are taking the examinations for the bar. It also tends to do away with the pernicious custom of "cramming" for examinations. The evils of this method of getting through can hardly be overestimated, and in a professional school, where the men are engaged in the study which is to be their life work, it would hardly seem necessary to guard against it. However, the fact that examinations are coming at a stated time and not till the close of the year gives a chance to the easy-going ones to put off work till the last and then by a fortnight's hard work at digests to squeak through. And this influence operates on the more conscientious workers also, for there is a tendency to note down questions likely to come up on examination as indicated in the course of instruction and to digest the work gone over and in a way memorize it, so that on first sight of a question on the examination paper the answer comes to the mind. But this is done at the sacrifice of obtaining habits of thinking problems out in a legal manner, which is the object and the benefit to be derived from the two years work as a student. As a practitioner his two years preparation will be valuable to him not on account of the law thus memorized but for the inground principles of law, and the habits of correct and logical deduction from them. So it is when the bar examinations come and a series of unexpected questions is met, memory cannot supply law to fit the particular case and the student flounders with his mainstay gone. But the man who has seen in the study of examples only the legal application of well known principles and has depended on his mind to help him through his recitations rather than his memory, does not find the bar examin-

ation unexpected or very hard to pass. In every way we commend the changes that have been made, and we see no reason why they should not be productive of better results in the future.

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The men chosen from the Senior class to compete for the Townsend prize are Percy Findlay, of Memphis, Tenn., on "The Political Future of Russia"; Harmon S. Graves, of Burlington, Vt., on "Chief Justice Chase"; George R. Montgomery, of Adana, Turkey, on "The Political Future of Russia." This prize of \$100 is given for the best oration delivered at the Anniversary Exercises of the Law School, to be held on Monday afternoon, June 25th, at 4 o'clock, at Center Church.

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C. LaRue Munson, L. S., '75, of Williamsport, Pa., has given the Senior class a valuable series of lectures on "The Beginnings of Practice." These lectures have had largely to do with the details of office work, but have included much wholesome advice as to the conduct of a young lawyer in the different walks of his profession. A synopsis of the lectures has been printed and can be obtained of the librarian with the compliments of the author.

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Hon. Simeon E. Baldwin delivered the oration on Decoration Day, in New Haven, Conn.

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1892. Arthur P. Day is Secretary and Treasurer of the L. E. Rhodes Company, of Hartford, Conn.

1893. Roger S. Baldwin is practising law in New Haven, Conn.

John W. Banks is practising law in Bridgeport, Conn.

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### PROGRAM OF COMMENCEMENT WEEK.

Sunday, June 24—10:30 A. M., Baccalaureate Sermon by the President, in Battell Chapel.

Monday, June 25—11 A. M., Presentation Exercises of the Graduating Class of College, with the Class Oration and Poem, in Battell Chapel.—2 P. M., Reading of Class Histories on the College Square, followed by planting of the Class Ivy.—4 P. M., Anniversary Exercises of the Law School, in the Center Church, with Address to the Graduating Class, by Ex-Governor William E. Russell, of Cambridge, Mass., and Townsend Prize Speaking by three members of the Senior Class. To be followed by the Annual Meeting of the Yale Law School Alumni Association, with

collation and addresses, in the Common Pleas Court Room, Court House.—8 P. M., Anniversary Exercises of the Sheffield Scientific School, in North Sheffield Hall.—9 P. M., Promenade Concert of the Senior Class, in Alumni Hall.

Tuesday, June 26—9:30 A. M., Meeting of the Alumni, in Alumni Hall.—10 A. M. to 1 P. M., Polls open in the Library for election of a member of the Corporation.—12 M., Address in Medicine, in the Chapel, by Dr. William T. Lusk, of New York city. Meetings will also be held at different hours, on Tuesday, of the members of the college classes of 1844, 1849, 1854, 1859, 1864, 1869, 1874, 1879, 1884, 1888 and 1891.

Wednesday, June 27—9 A. M., Procession from the Library to the Commencement Exercises in Center Church. The speaking includes Townsend Orations by six members of the Senior Class in college, in competition for the DeForest Prize Medal.—2:30 P. M., Dinner of the Alumni in Alumni Hall.—9 to 11 P. M., Reception of the President, in the Art School.